

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 04056 01 OF 02 131057Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 HA-05 /106 W

-----039538 131121Z/12

R 130925Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0044

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

USMISSION USNATO

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 BUCHAREST 4056

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SHUM, RO, HU, UR, US

SUBJECT: CEAUSESCU TAKES FIRM STAND ON EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE
IN MINORITIES QUESTION

REF: BUCHAREST 4032

1. SUMMARY. MASS RALLY (120,000 OFFICIALLY) ON JUNE 10 IN
OBSERVANCE OF JOINT 130/30 ANNIVERSARIES OF 1848 BOURGEOIS
DEMOCRATIC REVOLUTION/COMMUNIST NATIONALIZATION GAVE CEAUSESCU
OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS HIMSELF TO MINORITIES QUESTION IN HIS-
TORICAL CONTEXT AND TO ISSUE WARNING THAT PROBLEMS OF
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PAGE 02 BUCHAR 04056 01 OF 02 131057Z

ETHNIC NATIONALITIES IN ROMANIA WILL BE SOLVED NOWHERE ELSE
"BUT HERE, IN BUCHAREST, BY OUR PARTY." HE SPOKE TO BOTH
EAST AND WEST, AND THE MESSAGE IS CLEAR: ROMANIA WILL BE
TREATED ON A LIVE-AND-LET-LIVE BASIS AS A FULLY SOVEREIGN
EQUAL; SOVEREIGNTY IS EXERCISED BY THE
RCP ALONE, ON BEHALF OF ALL ROMANIANS OF WHATEVER ETHNIC
ORIGIN. END SUMMARY.

2. IN LONG INTRODUCTORY REMARKS CEAUSESCU QUOTED NUMBER OF 1848 REVOLUTIONARIES, CULMINATING WITH LAJOS KOSSUTH, ON BROTHERHOOD BETWEEN THE NATIONALITIES, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON MAGYAR-ROMANIAN UNITY AGAINST NEFARIOUS FORCES WITHOUT. HE CITED THE 1848 REVOLUTIONARIES' INABILITY TO ACHIEVE SUCH UNITY IN THE FACE OF THE UNITED FORCES OF REACTION AS A PRIME CAUSE OF THE REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT'S FAILURE IN THE THREE "ROMANIAN" PROVINCES OF THE TIME. CARRYING THIS THEME TO THE PRESENT, CEAUSESCU ENJOINED THE MASSES "NOT TO FORGET FOR EVEN ONE MOMENT" THAT THE DOMINANT EXPLOITATIVE CLASSES EVERYWHERE, "WITHOUT REGARD TO NATIONALITY", AND FOREIGN REACTIONARY FORCES HAVE TRIED TO CREATE FEUDS BETWEEN THE WORKING CLASSES OF DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES, THE MORE EASILY TO DOMINATE THEM. THE LESSONS OF THE PAST AS WELL AS THE "GIGANTIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF A UNIFIED WORKING CLASS IN ROMANIA SHOW THE NECESSITY TO REJECT ETHNIC CHAUVINISM AND ALL REACTIONARY FOREIGN ATTEMPTS TO SLANDER THE PARTY'S AND STATE'S NATIONALITIES POLICY AND ROMANIAN SOCIALISM.

3. AFTER REPEATING HIS ASSURANCES TO ALL OF PERMANENTLY BEING ABLE TO LEARN AND DEVELOP IN ANY FIELD IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGES, CEAUSESCU ADDED THAT ALL MUST, HOWEVER, AT THE SAME TIME SPEAK IN THE LANGUAGE OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIALISM AND DIALECTIC MATERIALISM OF THE COMMON REVOLUTIONARY STRUGGLE FOR THE EXALTATION OF SOCIALIST ROMANIA.

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PAGE 03 BUCHAR 04056 01 OF 02 131057Z

4. IN SPEAKING OF THOSE WHO WISH TO USE MINORITIES AS A BRIDGE TO DEVELOP CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN ROMANIA AND ITS NEIGHBORS, CEAUSESCU SPECIFICALLY PLEDGED "CONTINUOUS DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN ROMANIA AND HUNGARY" IN THE SPIRIT OF 1848 AS REALIZED TODAY BY THE RCP IN THE CASE OF SOCIALISM AND COMMUNISM. AT THE SAME TIME, HE "STRESSED" THAT JUST AS BUCHAREST WOULD NOT PRESUME TO TRY TO SOLVE NATIONALITIES QUESTIONS IN OTHER CAPITALS, NEITHER WILL THAT QUESTION IN ROMANIA BE SOLVED IN "BUDAPEST, BERLIN, BONN, BELGRADE OR ANYWHERE ELSE, BUT HERE, IN BUCHAREST, BY OUR PARTY." REITERATING THE SAME THEME, CEAUSESCU PLEDGED THAT ROMANIA WOULD NEVER USE ROMANIAN MINORITIES TO INTERFERE IN THE AFFAIRS OF OTHERS AND REAFFIRMED HIS "ABSOLUTE DETERMINATION TO ALLOW NO OTHERS TO USE THE NATIONALITIES PROBLEM TO INTERFERE IN ANY WAY WHATSOEVER IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ROMANIA." ROMANIA WOULD, HE CONCLUDED, DO ALL IT COULD TO STRENGTHEN RELATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS ON THE BASIS OF FULL EQUALITY AND RECIPROCAL RESPECT.

5. COMMENT. THIS WAS CEAUSESCU'S MOST FAR-RANGING TREATMENT OF THE NATIONALITIES QUESTION IN ITS EXTERNAL

ASPECTS. HE ADDRESSED HIS REMARKS BOTH EAST AND WEST, WITHOUT, OF COURSE, MENTIONING EITHER MAJOR POWER. HIS ASSURANCES THAT ALL CAN DEVELOP FREELY IN THE MILIEU OF THEIR MOTHER TONGUES, BUT THAT THE VOCABULARY MUST BE THAT OF SOCIALISM/COMMUNISM, SEEMS CLEARLY AIMED AT THOSE IN THE WEST, PARTICULARLY AT THOSE IN THE U.S. WHO MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO LEND AN EAR TO MAGYAR AGITATION WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF HUMAN RIGHTS. NO DOUBT WITH HISTORIC PRECEDENTS IN MIND AT A TIME WHEN TRAVELS ARE TAKING HIM OR HIS PRINCIPAL LIEUTENANTS TO THE US, PRC, UK AND FRANCE, CEAUSESCU'S EMPHASIS ON HUNGARY IS IN FACT A "KEEP YOUR FINGERS OUT OF THE POT" WARNING TO THE SOVIETS NOT TO SUCCUMB AGAIN TO THE TEMPTATION TO FOSTER MAGYAR ETHNOCENTRICITY IN ROMANIAN TRANSYLVANIA. COUPLED WITH A REITER-
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PAGE 04 BUCHAR 04056 01 OF 02 131057Z

ATION OF HIS ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINORITIES AS A BRIDGE IN ROMANIA'S RELATIONS WITH HUNGARY, THE PLEDGE NOT TO USE ROMANIAN MINORITIES TO OTHER'S DISCOMFORT (ONLY IN BESSARABIA-- AND IN THE U.S.--IS THERE A ROMANIAN POPULATION OF SIGNIFICANCE), AND AN ISOLATED PASSAGE ON ROMANIA'S MILITARY PREPAREDNESS AND DETERMINATION TO DEFEND ITSELF "IN AN AWARENESS OF THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL SITUATION",

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PAGE 01 BUCHAR 04056 02 OF 02 131049Z
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ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 HA-05 /106 W

-----039484 131120Z /12

R 130925Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0045

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL MUNICH
S/ AMEMBASSY PARIS 2674
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 2 OF 2 BUCHAREST 4056

CEAUSESCU IS ASSERTING HIS DETERMINATION THAT ROMANIA
BE TREATED ON A LIVE-AND-LET-LIVE BASIS AS A FULLY
SOVEREIGN EQUAL WHERE SOVEREIGNTY IS EXERCISED BY THE
RCP ALONE, ON BEHALF OF ALL ROMANIANS OF WHATEVER NATIONALITY.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISCRIMINATION, MINORITIES, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BUCHAR04056
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780246-0765
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780667/aaaacfkv.tel
Line Count: 185
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 376e498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BUCHAREST 4032
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2380180
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEAUSESCU TAKES FIRM STAND ON EXTERNAL INTERFERENCE IN MINORITIES QUESTION
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, RO, HU, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/376e498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014